TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia
ESTABLISHED 1892

Calvin H. Robinson — — Editor and Publisher

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Was It A "One-Day Stand"

It is now approximately one year since the fabulous throng of over 20,000 people gathered here for the dedication of the rebuilt McLean House, scene of the reconciliation of brothers here April 9, 1865.

Was that never-to-be-forgotten April 16, 1950, a "one-day stand," a lucky outpouring for a single event? Or was it a genuine display of true national interest in the Appomattox Story?

We think the answer is rather important.

On the affirmative side is the fact that there has been a sustaining interest in the Appomattox Story. In recent weeks, two national magazines, having combined circulation of over six million, have featured articles on historic Appomattox. People all over America have caught the true significance of what happened here in 1865. There is ample evidence that Appomattox is one of the most universally known place names in the nation. The writer has never found it necessary to go into details when asked where he lived. It is not necessary to say: A little town near Lynchburg; or, You know, the famous place in Virginia where the Civil War ended. Just say, Appomattox!

Also on the affirmative side is the gradual upturn of local interest in providing accomodations and services for tourists who visit here to stand on ground sacred to the cause of peace. Within the year, our tourist accomodations have been somewhat expanded and there is recognition that we will have to do even more.

However, on the other hand, we are somewhat disappointed at the slowness of the National Park Service to proceed with the restoration of the Old Court House Village. A nation spending dozens of billions each year for war, should not begrudge a few thousand to complete restoration of its greatest shrine of peace. Top federal officials were in Appomattox last April 16 and saw for themselves the genuine and truly sincere national interest in the Appomattox Story. There was nothing cooked up about it. Seldom has there ever been a more complete demonstration of national interest. It is difficult for us to believe that a few thousand dollars in a budget holds up completion of the restoration. Surely the million dollars would not involve a serious financial crisis. Frankly, we think the true reason for delay is the proverbial slowness with which federal departments move. Believing that, we are impatient rather than critical. We are anxious to get the job finished. This year will be the greatest travel year in the history of our nation. Last year 900,000 people visited Mount Vernon! They would come to Appomattox, too—but first there is much work to be done.

So: a year later, we repeat what we know to be a fact— The Appomattox Story has genuine national appeal. Let us dedicate ourselves to be persistent in our efforts to see that it never dies.

WITH OTHER EDITORS

THE GREAT TRAGEDY OF OUR TIMES

(The Chattanooga News-Free Press)

This is an age of shortages.

Throughout the world there are shortages of the actual necessities of life— shortages of tools with which to do the huge amount of work that needs to be done, and shortages of men willing to do the work.

The greatest shortage, though, is not in material things. The greatest shortage, in this country, as elsewhere in the troubled world is the shortage of leadership.

This acute shortage of leadership was correctly called "the great tragedy of our times" by J. Malcolm Bridges, of Richmond, Va., president of the Southern Association of Chambers of Commerce Executives, in his speech yesterday before the forty-third annual convention of the association, being held in this city.

During the comparatively short course of its history, this nation has produced much more than its share of great men and leaders. That is why it has become the great nation that it is.

We still have many able men in this country. But in this age which exalts mediocrity, our ablest men are not recognized as leaders—are not permitted to lead. The mass man of today is jealous of superiority. He wants little men in high places.

And he is paying the price of leadership of that quality—and the paying has only just begun.

The low quality of our current leadership is, indeed tragedy of our time. If this lack of leadership is not corrected, it may turn out to be the great tragedy of all time.

UTILIZING RESOURCES

(Winchester Star)

The little town of Waynoka, Okla., again provided an example Sunday of how to capitalize on resources, regardless of what they are. A crowd estimated at 20,000 flocked into Waynoka and adjoining towns, some as far as 60 miles away, for Waynoka's annual Rattlesnake Day. Several thousand of the reptiles were caught alive and auctioned off to buyers from as far distant as New York City and Los Angeles.

The Cimarron Breaks, across the river from the town, has always been infested with rattlers. Ranchers lose as many as 100 cattle a year as a result of rattlesnake bites. So each spring when the sun entices the reptiles from their dens, an organized drive is staged to catch as many as possible. As high as $2.50 a pound is bid for the snakes, which are used for meat, for the manufacture of serum, and for the manufacture of novelties from their hides.

Rattlesnakes have put Waynoka on the map, and on "Rattlesnake Sunday" the town's business places do as large a volume as in an ordinary month. Organized to rid the "breaks" of the reptilian menace, Waynoka boosters now hope the rattlesnake population will not be decimated. Perhaps in time a restocking program to prevent extermination of the town's leading attraction for the outside world will be necessary.

We would like to know what is wrong with getting out on a limb, for surely, that's where the fruit is supposed to be .—Cairo, Georgia Messenger.

Senator Walter F. George, at his home in Vienna, Ga. for a brief Easter holiday, told Ken Turner, Atlanta Journal - Constitution reporter: "War is not in the offing or imminent unless we stumble into it." It's also possible that we might back into it. —Bulloch Herald.

Neighbors are people who drop in when you're sick and enjoy telling you how sick they used to be. —Wiregrass Farmer.

THE FAMILY BIBLE

(The Eastern Shore News)

A friend was recently pleasantly surprised to see a well worn Bible in the home of the people he was visiting. The book was evidently being used considerably.

The sight was so unusual in these days, when too often religion is pushed far into the background that he studied the children in that family during his stay. They were intelligent, friendly and unselfish—unusually so.

The Bible was worn like a dictionary in a newspaper office, the cover was gone, the pages were thumbed and curled and many passages were marked. Here indeed was a treasured book, one that evidently gave the reader comfort, inspiration and happiness.

It was a home where family prayers were held at least on Sunday and often on other days, where grace was said before meals and where Sunday was just that — a family day and a day of rest.

THE COLLEGE DEFERMENTS

(New York Herald Tribune)

The new draft deferment plan for college students announced by President Truman strikes a severe blow at the idea of equality of service. Its actual effects on the armed forces' man-power problems will not be disastrous, for we can put together an army without the million or more men made eligible for deferment by Selective Service. But the principle that every young man must take his turn serving his country, whether he is richer, or smarter, or better educated than his neighbor, has been lost unless it is made clear that this is a general deferment and not an exemption.

The argument advanced by advocates of the college deferment plan is that the country could survive by weight of numbers alone, but also by the presence of a corps of trained, skilled and resourceful specialists. This is perfectly true, and if the new regulations were designed to exempt persons of remarkable and specialized aptitudes, there might be some excuse for them. The simple fact is that they do no such thing. They provide, instead, for the deferment of a student who "either has maintained a required scholastic standing, or has attained on a qualification test a score, or both such standing and score, to be prescribed by the Directors of Selective Service with the approval of the President." What this will mean, in actual practice, is that a college student who maintains an average grade of "C, or 75," in his classes, will stay out of the army as long as he does so. College standards of grading vary tremendously throughout the nation, but Selective Service would hard put to name one institution where a 70 average has ever stamped a student as exceptional or outstanding, or above average, or any of the other things the deferred men are supposed to be.

It would be foolish and dangerous to hand every draft registrant an infantryman's rifle, regardless of whatever aptitudes or potentialities he might possess. But it would be equally foolish, and even more dangerous, to exempt the entire class of average Americans from military liability, while their less fortunate but perhaps equally intelligent compatriots were thrown into the foxholes. Selective Service could, if it wished, do a thorough job of sorting out draftees according to their abilities, schooling some, training others, seeing to it that each man was serving or studying where he could do the most good. This new plan doesn't face up with this vital problem; it evades it.

Render every possible service to visitors—tourists spend millions of dollars each year in Virginia.

HOMEMAKERS' ITEMS

Broilers, fryers, and eggs, are being featured on the U. S. Department of Agriculture's plentiful foods list for April.

Frozen fish is another good buy for April shoppers, and supplies of dry beans, cottage cheese, and peanut butter will be heavy for the month.

Among the frozen fish stocks, haddock, and cod fillets and halibut steaks are particularly plentiful.

Fresh apple stocks in cold storage have been running much larger than a year ago, and processed apple products are also plentiful.

Vegetables on the April plentiful foods list include Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, celery and spinach.

Play safe—drive carefully.

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WMVA

Listen to

CALVIN ROBINSON

The

Appomattox News Reporte

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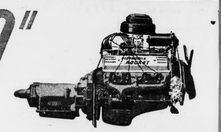

New advances make Oldsmobile's "Rocket" even more economical for 1951! Try it yourself!

Above, Oldsmobile Super "88" 4-Door Sedan. *Hydra-Matic Drive optional at extra cost. Equipment, accessories and trim illustrated subject to change without notice.

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Carver High School

Hello Readers. Seems as if spring is about to show its long awaited face. The few sunny days are a joy to see.

Everyone at school has a bad cold or is getting one. It's more like the old time flu.

We were all anxious to hear the N. F. A. boys' tape recording over Station WLVA, Saturday. Eric Lund, Farm Reporter for that station was at school last Thursday to make the recording. We could detect all the voices—those of Warren Jones, Norrald Watkins, who is president of the group; McKinley Tanner, Charles Booker, Charles Booker, Warren Minnifield, Raymond Watkins, and William Turner. This was in observation of National N. F. A. Week.

The basketball tournament is over with the eighth grade winning. Those fellows play well and we wish to congratulate them. Some of the players were very small. They will receive medals.

The Student Council Talent program was held Wednesday afternoon. The council is looking forward to attending the state meeting Saturday in Alexandria. Hope it's a nice trip.

The printed edition of the Carver Herald goes to press this week. It is to be good, we hear. Material for it has required time on the part of the staff.

Warren Minnifield, who is representing the Junior Class in the Student Council will motor to Alexandria Saturday.

Simon Morgan is still on the sick list. The Junior Class sent him a nice fruit basket.

Lillie Mae Lewis is to undergo an operation on her fingers which were injured while canning last summer, assisting her family with food preservation so strongly emphasized now.

Until next week: "The price of wisdom is above rubies."

FIFTY YEARS AGO

(Items from our files)

The Bank of Appomattox opened its doors for business on April 10, 1901.

Edgar Meadows, an operator of the N. & W. at Pamplin City and Miss Annie Wood married at Farmville.

Dr. G. B. Taylor and sister have arrived and are keeping house at "Kirklea," the Baptist Parsonage.

Plans announced for the wedding of J. Otway O'Brien and Miss Rachel Caldwell at the Liberty Baptist Church at 8 P. M., Tuesday, April 29, 1901.

Richard Tucker [illegible] Mrs. C. S. McDearmon at Evergreen.

Split among Southern Democrats may serve to save RFC.

Junior Garden Club Wins Honors

Appomattox Junior Garden Club exhibited three arrangements and eighteen specimens in the Flowering Blub Show, "Springtime in Virginia," at the Carillon, Richmond on April 7 and 8. The following pupils exhibited:

Composition expressing a nursery rhyme, Priscilla Staples; Composition arrangement in a tea cup saucer as an accessory, Bradley Babcock; Arrangement in a pitcher, Frank Lee Burke; Specimens, Narcissi, Daisy, Daffodil, Catherine Richardson; also Narcissi, Magnolia Stellata, Red Emperor Tulip and Daffodil, by Hoolfield Hunter, Peggy Godsey, Vida Beasley, Virginia Shamoe, Sallye Staples, Bill Cald. well.

Ribbons were won as follows: Blue ribbon, pansy, Catherine Richardson; red ribbon, narcissi, Catherine Richardson; red ribbon, daffodil, Catherine Richardson; red ribbon, magnolia stellata, Peggy Godsey; composition expressing nursery rhyme, red ribbon, Priscilla Staples.

Truman held unwilling to dismiss Gen. MacArthur.

Forty-third Division is slated for duty in Europe.

Home Clubs Sponsor Farm Beautification

The Home Demonstration Club Federation Goal project of home and community beautification is one that will benefit the whole county, not just the members of the Home Demonstration Clubs. One of the aims of the project is to promote pride in the appearance of the community and to encourage not only the club members but citizens of the county to assume responsibility for a more attractive county by the improvement of their farm entrances, drives and home grounds.

An attractive driveway entrance to the farm helps to make a good impression on the visitor or passerby. The proper and well - planned entrance to a farm adds to the value of the property, it expresses the owner's personality and it reaches out like an inviting arm with a hearty welcome. Take a look at your driveway and farm entrance. If it is not well planned, now is the time to start a campaign to get it fixed. Should you need some suggestions, the Home Agent or some of the Home Federation Goal leaders will be glad to give you information that is being made available to the clubs in the county.

A. G. Smith, landscape specialist from V. P. I., held a leader training meeting in the county and discussed the project of Home and Community Beautification with the Federation Goal leaders. He pointed out that a simple, well-kept entrance and drive to the farm home is to be disired rather than an elaborate or pretentions entrance, for this would detract from the farmhouse itself. He said that the mail box is an important item at the entrance. There are certain rules and regulations that must be followed governing the mail box. Do not plant tall growing shrubs or erect anything that would obstruct the view. This is a safety measure. Nothing is more hazardous than pulling out into the main highway without being able to look both ways for coming traffic. Low ground cover such as periwinkle or ivy or a bed of flowers is much more desirable and less dangerous.

Beautiful home grounds and communities are the dreams of most rural people, but many never get any further than the dream state. The main purpose of the Federation Goal this year is to awaken the dreamers to the task at hand, make a plan and set to work.

PRINCE EDWARD TAX RATE RAISED

The Prince Edward County board of supervisors Thursday added 20 cents per $100 valuation of real personal property to the tax rate for school use.

The increase raires that portion of the levy for schools from the present $1.90 to $2.10, which added to the 30-cent levy for county operation brings the Prince Edward tax rate to $2.40. The increase will also aply to the tax on machinery and tools.

FISHING SEASON DATES

The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has announced that the opening date for bass fishing will be changed from June 20 to June 1. There will be no change in the closing date. This will interest those fishing in state park lakes.

Yugoslavs ask West's Big Three for arms aid.

French report a Chinese unit in Indochina.

Civil Service seeks workers at Buena Vista.

State Dental Association meets in Richmond.

Plans being readied for annual Winchester Apple Blossom Festival.

Two burned to death in fire at Arlington.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur is relieved of command on orders of President Truman.

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THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN

ONLY 50 YEARS AGO: APRIL 8, 1901 APRIL 8, 1951

THE BANK OF APPOMATTOX

was founded on April 8, 1901 with a capital of $10,000.00, when (West) Appomattox was a village of about 300. In 1906 the bank moved from its temporary quarters, formerly a Bar-Room to its present location, the first brick business building in Town.

The bank in its fifty (50) years of service in this community can look backward over the panorama of events along the trail realizing that it has been a real journey.

During these fifty years there have been social, political, and economic upheavals which have not only changed the maps of the world, but the very character of our civilization. It might be the "fastest" half century in history - a period which has encompassed both the heights of prosperity and the depths of depression, but through it all the services of your bank to our community have faithfully gone on and on. This is the accomplishment in which we take most pride today. This is a community bank - THE BANK OF APPOMATTOX. Through its doors pass the varied business and financial activity of this section. The business man, the farmer, the home owner, the wage earner, need and use the facilities which it provides. It has been a real privilege to have devoted these years to your service. With all these things in mind we are happy to begin another half-century of service realizing that upon this foundation we can continue to build a bank of increasing usefulness to you and your neighbor.

We present for your information comparative statements as follows:

RESOURCES	Anniversary Silver April 8, 1926	Anniversary Golden April 8, 1951
Loans	430,781.73	963,489.84
Cash & due from banks	15,252.04	511,310.59
U. S. Gov't. Bonds; State, County, Municipal and other investment securitites	561.50	674,820.96
Building, Furniture & Fixtures	8,681.87	5,276.89
Other Real Estate	1,775.38	1.00
Other Assets	None	1,340.31
TOTALS	$457,052.52	$2,156,239.59

LIABILITIES	Anniversary Silver April 8, 1926	Anniversary Golden April 8, 1951
Capital Stock - Common	40,000.00	40,000.00
Surplus	34,000.00	60,000.00
Reserve for Contingencies	None	1,000.00
Undivided Profits	1,699.70	1,814.16
Total Deposits	377,630.45	2,013,007.43
Reserves for Interest, Taxes, etc.	3,722.37	10,418.00
TOTALS	$457,052.52	$2,156,239.59

Our growth is the natural result of your progress and an expression of your satisfaction in the banking services rendered, tangible evidence of your approval that the policies and methods of this bank are in accord with the demands of present day business needs.

Not length of service, but kind of service and proper management have enabled your bank to grow in strength, hold its old friends and acquire new ones steadily through passing and changing conditions.

Banks and other businesses are sound not because of size, but because of sound men constantly observing sound fundamental business practice.

Mature in experience . . . young with enthusiasm for the promotion of progressive banking practices . . . we sincerely appreciate the confidence and support of our customers, old and new . . . we probably served your grandparents . . . we are pleased to serve you . . . we are looking forward to serve your great . . . great grandchildren.

To our present customers . . . and our customers of tomorrow . . . we dedicate the future years, determined to merit and hold confidence in our ability to serve your financial needs.

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